

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GABORO 01428 200314Z  
ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 SP-02 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 /068 W  
-----052889 211131Z /43

R 181215Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2242  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1428

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

NAIROBI FOR REDSO/EA

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID ETRN BC  
SUBJ: TRANS-KALAHARI ROAD: KEY TO NAMIBIA COOPERATION

REF: GABORONE A-14 OF 5/15/78

1. EMBASSY POUCHING TO ADDRESSEES REFAIR ACCOUNT OF CON-  
VERSATIONS BETWEEN BOTSWANA VICE PRESIDENT MASIRE AND ME  
CONCERNING GOB PLANS TO FOSTER CLOSE REGIONAL POLITICAL AND  
ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA. GOB VIEWS  
AS PRECONDITION OF THIS COOPERATION AN EAST-WEST TRANS-  
KALAHARI ROAD LINKING THE TWO COUNTRIES VIA LOBATSE, KANYE,  
JWANENG, GHANZI AND MAMOUNO IN NAMIBIA. (WITH RECENT DECISION  
TO EXPLOIT VAST DIAMOND DEPOSITS IN JWANENG, COMPLETION OF  
LOBATSE-JWANENG STRETCH IS ALREADY ASSURED.) ROAD WOULD  
PRECEDE THE LONGER TERM BUT, WE FEEL, NO LESS LIKELY DEVELOP-  
MENT OF A TRANS-KALAHARI RAILROAD.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GABORO 01428 200314Z

2. IN ADDITION TO LINKING TOGETHER THE TWO COUNTRIES IN  
REGIONAL COOPERATION, PROVIDING THE ISOLATED WESTERN  
POPULATION OF BOTSWANA WITH BETTER ACCESS TO THE ABATTOIR  
AND SUPPLIES IN LOBATSE, AND OPENING FOR BOTSWANA AN ALTERNATIVE  
ECONOMIC OUTLET TO THE WEST FOR ITS BEEF AND MINERAL EXPORTS,  
THE ROAD WOULD ALSO BENEFIT SOUTH AFRICA INASMUCH AS IT WOULD

BE MUCH USED BY TRAVELERS FROM WINDHOEK TO JOHANNESBURG.

3. REFAIR CONCLUDES THAT THE ONLY QUESTION IS WHEN AND NOT WHETHER THIS IMPORTANT REGIONAL ROAD WILL BE BUILT AND THAT, WITH AVAILABILITY OF U.S. FUNDS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGIONAL PROJECTS, THE U.S. SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD WITH THE GOB IN MOVING AHEAD TOWARD REALIZATION OF THIS BOLD INITIATIVE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: AFTER RECEIPT OF REFAIR BY ADDRESSEES, EMBASSY WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE RECEIVING AID REACTION TO CONCLUSION DRAWN IN PARA 3 ABOVE.

NORLAND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, HIGHWAYS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GABORO01428  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780214-0041  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** GABORONE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780546/aaaabmpk.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** fdd0309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AID  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 GABORONE A-14  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2654609  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRANS-KALAHARI ROAD: KEY TO NAMIBIA COOPERATION  
**TAGS:** EAID, ETRN, BC, WA, US, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fdd0309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014